

The world's largest telescopes for optical and near-infrared astronomy are the twin 10 meter Keck telescopes on top of Mauna Kea, Hawaii. NASA will use the giant telescopes to support its interests in finding planets around other stars. The two Keck telescopes in conjunction with four proposed outrigger telescopes will be used as an interferometer to study the origin and evolution of planetary systems.

Dr. Paul Swanson, manager of the Keck Interferometer Project at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory will discuss the NASA role in the Keck telescopes, the science goals, interferometer design and the present program status,